

REMARKS

Claims 38 and 40-73 are pending in this application. Claims 38, 40-56 and 72 are rejected but claims 41 and 72 have been found allowable; and claims 57-71 and 73 are allowed. It is noted that the Examiner indicated concerns with claims 38 and 40 during discussion with the Examiner. Claims 38, 40-42, and 72 are amended; and claims 54-56 are cancelled hereby (claims 1-37 and 39 having been previously cancelled).

Applicants acknowledge the allowance of claims 57-71 and 73.

Applicants have amended claim 38 by providing that the electrode arrangement is a first electrode arrangement, amending the function of the first electrode arrangement, and providing a position of the first electrode arrangement, the suction box, and the trailing scraper relative to the applicator unit. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 38 is now in condition for allowance, which is hereby respectfully requested.

Applicants have amended claim 40 by making claim 40 independent and including the limitations of currently amended claim 38 but for the wherein paragraph of currently amended claim 38. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 40 is now in condition for allowance, which is hereby respectfully requested.

Responsive to the rejection of claim 41 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, Applicants have amended claim 41 by making claim 41 independent and including the limitations of currently amended claim 38, providing that the electrode arrangement of claim 41 is a second electrode arrangement, and providing a function of the second electrode arrangement and a position of the first electrode arrangement, the suction box, and the trailing scraper relative to the second electrode arrangement, which is claimed to be upstream of and proximate to the applicator unit. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 41 is now in condition for allowance, which is hereby respectfully requested.

Responsive to the rejection of claims 42-56 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, and 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, Applicants have amended claim 42 and canceled claims 54-56. Applicants have amended claim 42 by providing a function and a position of the floating potential electrode, amending “positions” to “positioned,” and providing a position of the floating potential electrode, the suction box, and the trailing scraper relative to the electrode arrangement, which is claimed to be upstream of and proximate to the applicator unit. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 42, and claims 43-53 depending therefrom, are now in condition for allowance, which is hereby respectfully requested.

Responsive to the rejection of claim 72 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, Applicants have amended claim 72 by making claim 72 independent and including the limitations of claim 66, and amending the “electrode” of claim 72 to “said at least one electrode strip.” The electrode arrangement of claim 66 includes at least one electrode strip. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 72 is now in condition for allowance, which is hereby respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that claims 38, 40-56, and 72 are definite and do particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Therefore, the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of all rejections and allowance of the claims.

In the event Applicants have overlooked the need for an extension of time, an additional extension of time, payment of fee, or additional payment of fee, Applicants hereby conditionally petition therefor and authorize that any charges be made to Deposit Account No. 20-0095, TAYLOR & AUST, P.C.

Should any question concerning any of the foregoing arise, the Examiner is invited to
telephone the undersigned at (260) 897-3400.

Respectfully submitted,

/Kelly R. Bailey/

Kelly R. Bailey
Registration No. 57,284

Attorney for Applicant

KRB/mb

Electronically filed: January 26, 2007

TAYLOR & AUST, P.C.
142 S. Main Street
P.O. Box 560
Avilla, IN 46710
Telephone: 260-897-3400
Facsimile: 260-897-9300